

Literature Titles

Benchmarks

1700L	DISCOURSE ON THE METHOD AND MEDITATIONS ON FIRST PHILOSOPHY
1690 Concerning Civil Government 1660 Beowulf and Celtic Tradition 1660 On Abraham Lincoln 1650 Collected Letters of Samuel Taylor Coleridge 1620 After Yeats and Joyce: Reading Modern Irish Literature	To such a class of things pertains corporeal nature in general, and its extension, the figure of extended things, their quantity or magnitude and number, as also the place in which they are, the time which measures their duration, and so on. That is possibly why our reasoning is not unjust when we conclude from this that Physics, Astronomy, Medicine and all other sciences which have as their end the consideration of composite things, are very dubious and uncertain; but that Arithmetic, Geometry and other sciences of that kind which only treat of things that are very simple and very general, without taking great trouble to ascertain whether they are actually existent or not, contain some measure of certainty and an element of the indubitable. (Rene Descartes, author)
1600L	FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS
1550 God, Idea of the Ancients 1530 The Good Earth 1530 Plutarch's Lives 1520 Modest Proposal 1510 On Human Nature 1500 The Decameron	In fact, it is absolutely impossible to make out by experience with complete certainty a single case in which the maxim of an action, however right in itself, rested simply on moral grounds and on the conception of duty. Sometimes it happens that with the sharpest self-examination we can find nothing beside the moral principle of duty which could have been powerful enough to move us to this or that action and to so great a sacrifice; yet we cannot from this infer with certainty that it was not really some secret impulse of self-love, under the false appearance of duty, that was the actual determining cause of the will. (Immanuel Kant, author)
1500L	ON ANCIENT MEDICINE
1450 Confessions of Nat Turner 1440 Legend of Sleepy Hollow 1420 Walden 1410 Profiles in Courage 1410 Hundred Years of Solitude	And as to him who had been accustomed to dinner, since, as soon as the body required food, and when the former meal was consumed, and he wanted refreshment, no new supply was furnished to it, he wastes and is consumed from want of food. For all the symptoms which I describe as befalling to this man I refer to want of food. And I also say that all men who, when in a state of health, remain for two or three days without food, experience the same unpleasant symptoms as those which I described in the case of him who had omitted to take dinner. (Hippocrates, author)
1400L	THE SCARLET LETTER
1390 Hamlet 1350 The Last of the Mohicans 1340 The Hunchback of Notre Dame 1340 Pygmalion 1320 Metamorphosis 1320 Up From Slavery	But the point which drew all eyes, and, as it were, transfigured the wearer—so that both men and women who had been familiarly acquainted with Hester Prynne were now impressed as if they beheld her for the first time—was that SCARLET LETTER, so fantastically embroidered and illuminated upon her bosom. It had the effect of a spell, taking her out of the ordinary relations with humanity, and enclosing her in a sphere by herself. “She hath good skill at her needle, that’s certain,” remarked one of her female spectators; “but did ever a woman, before this brazen hussy, contrive such a way of showing it? Why, gossips, what is it but to laugh in the faces of our godly magistrates, and make a pride out of what they, worthy gentlemen, meant for a punishment?” (Nathaniel Hawthorne, author)
1300L	BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION: 1954
1270 A Rose for Emily 1220 18 Best Short Stories 1210 Cold Mountain 1200 The Trumpeter of Krakow 1200 One Writer’s Beginnings 1200 Moby Dick	Under that doctrine, equality of treatment is accorded when the races are provided substantially equal facilities, even though these facilities be separate. In the Delaware case, the Supreme Court of Delaware adhered to that doctrine, but ordered that the plaintiffs be admitted to the white schools because of their superiority to the Negro schools. The plaintiffs contend that segregated public schools are not “equal” and cannot be made “equal,” and that hence they are deprived of the equal protection of the laws. Because of the obvious importance of the question presented, the Court took jurisdiction. Argument was heard in the 1952 Term, and reargument was heard this Term on certain questions propounded by the Court. (347 US 483, 98 L ed 873, 74 S Ct 686)
1200L	WAR AND PEACE
1190 Hiroshima 1160 The Battle Ground 1150 Death Comes for the Archbishop 1130 A Tale of Two Cities 1110 The Right Stuff 1100 Pilgrim at Tinker Creek	Pierre had been educated abroad, and this reception at Anna Pavlovna’s was the first he had attended in Russia. He knew that all the intellectual lights of Petersburg were gathered there and, like a child in a toyshop, did not know which way to look, afraid of missing any clever conversation that was to be heard. Seeing the self-confident and refined expression on the faces of those present he was always expecting to hear something very profound. At last he came up to Morio. Here the conversation seemed interesting and he stood waiting for an opportunity to express his own views, as young people are fond of doing. (Leo Tolstoy, author)
1100L	PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
1090 Growing Up 1080 Year of Wonders 1070 The Great Gatsby 1040 Certain Things Last: The Selected Short Stories of Sherwood Anderson 1030 On the Bus with Rosa Parks: Poems	Occupied in observing Mr. Bingley’s attentions to her sister, Elizabeth was far from suspecting that she was herself becoming an object of some interest in the eyes of his friend. Mr. Darcy had at first scarcely allowed her to be pretty; he had looked at her without admiration at the ball; and when they next met, he looked at her only to criticise. But no sooner had he made it clear to himself and his friends that she had hardly a good feature in her face, than he began to find it was rendered uncommonly intelligent by the beautiful expression of her dark eyes. (Jane Austen, author)
1000L	BLACK BEAUTY
990 She Walks These Hills 960 Poisonwood Bible 950 Bud, Not Buddy 920 Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry 900 Rosa 900 Sounder	One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother whinnied to me to come to her, and then she said: “I wish you to pay attention to what I am going to say to you. The colts who live here are very good colts, but they are cart-horse colts, and of course they have not learned manners. You have been well-bred and well-born; your father has a great name in these parts, and your grandfather won the cup two years at the Newmarket races; your grandmother had the sweetest temper of any horse I ever knew, and I think you have never seen me kick or bite. I hope you will grow up gentle and good, and never learn bad ways; do your work with a good will, lift your feet up well when you trot, and never bite or kick even in play.” (Anna Sewell, author)
900L	TOM SWIFT IN THE LAND OF WONDERS
880 Her Stories 870 The View from Saturday 870 To Kill A Mockingbird 860 Julie of the Wolves 820 Maniac Magee 800 Scooter	Just what Tom’s thoughts were, Ned, of course, could not guess. But by the flush that showed under the tan of his chum’s cheeks the young financial secretary felt pretty certain that Tom was a bit apprehensive of the outcome of Professor Beecher’s call on Mary Nestor. “So he is going to see her about ‘something important,’ Ned?” “That’s what some members of his party called it.” “And they’re waiting here for him to join them?” “Yes. And it means waiting a week for another steamer. It must be something pretty important, don’t you think, to cause Beecher to risk that delay in starting after the idol of gold?” “Important? Yes, I suppose so,” assented Tom. (Victor Appleton, author)
800L	THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO
780 The Cricket in Times Square 760 On the Far Side of the Mountain 750 Walk Two Moons 740 Henry and Ribsy 720 Amber Brown is Not a Crayon 700 Catwings	“Great soul!” said Pinocchio, fondly embracing his friend. Five months passed and the boys continued playing and enjoying themselves from morn till night, without ever seeing a book, or a desk, or a school. But, my children, there came a morning when Pinocchio awoke and found a great surprise awaiting him, a surprise which made him feel very unhappy, as you shall see. Everyone, at one time or another, has found some surprise awaiting him. Of the kind which Pinocchio had on that eventful morning of his life, there are but few. What was it? I will tell you, my dear little readers. On awakening, Pinocchio put his hand up to his head and there he found—Guess! He found that, during the night, his ears had grown at least ten full inches! (Carlo Collodi, author)
700L	BUNNICULA: A RABBIT TALE OF MYSTERY
670 Number the Stars 670 The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses 660 Holes 650 Chicken Sunday 620 M. C. Higgins, The Great 610 Beat the Story-Drum, Pum-Pum	“Of course he bites vegetables. All rabbits bite vegetables.” “He bites them, Harold, but he does not eat them. That tomato was all white. What does that mean?” “It means that he paints vegetables?” I ventured. “It means he bites vegetables to make a hole in them, and then he sucks out all the juices.” “But what about all the lettuce and carrots that Toby has been feeding him in his cage?” “Ah ha. What indeed?” Chester said. “Look at this!” Whereupon, he stuck his paw under the chair cushion and brought out with a flourish an assortment of strange white objects. Some of them looked like unironed handkerchiefs, and the others well, the others didn’t look like anything I’d ever seen before. (Deborah and James Howe, authors) © 1979 by James Howe. Reprinted by permission of Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing Division. All rights reserved.
600L	A BABY SISTER FOR FRANCES
570 The Whipping Boy 560 Sarah, Plain and Tall 540 The Adventures of Sparrowboy 530 It’s All Greek to Me 520 John Henry: An American Legend 510 Little Red Hen	“Did you forget that I like raisins?” “No, I did not forget,” said Mother, “but you finished up the raisins yesterday and I have not been out shopping yet.” “Well,” said Frances, “things are not very good around here anymore. No clothes to wear. No raisins for the oatmeal. I think maybe I’ll run away.” “Finish your breakfast,” said Mother. “It is almost time for the school bus.” “What time will dinner be tonight?” said Frances. “Half past six,” said Mother. “Then I will have plenty of time to run away after dinner,” said Frances, and she kissed her mother good-bye and went to school. After dinner that evening Frances packed her little knapsack very carefully. She put in her tiny special blanket and her alligator doll. (Russell Hoban, author) © 1964 by Russell Hoban. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.
500L	THE MAGIC SCHOOL BUS INSIDE THE EARTH
490 Harold and the Purple Crayon 440 Happy Birthday, Moon 440 Curious George Goes to an Ice Cream Shop 420 Angel Child, Dragon Child 420 Michael Bird-Boy 410 Sam the Minuteman	But suddenly, the bus began to spin like a top. That sort of thing doesn’t happen on most class trips. When the spinning finally stopped, some things had changed. We all had on new clothes. The bus had turned into a steam shovel. And there were shovels and picks for every kid in the class. “Start digging!” yelled Ms. Frizzle. And we began making a huge hole right in the middle of the field. Before long CLUNK! we hit rock. The Friz handed out jackhammers. We began to break through the hard rock. “Hey, these rocks have stripes,” said a kid. Ms. Frizzle explained that each stripe was a different kind of rock. We chipped off pieces of the rocks for our class rock collection. “These rocks are called sedimentary rocks, class,” said Ms. Frizzle. (Joanna Cole, author) THE MAGIC SCHOOL BUS is a registered trademark of Scholastic Inc. © 1987 by Joanna Cole. Reprinted by permission of Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved.
400L	FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS
370 Owl at Home 370 My Name is Alice 370 The Drinking Gourd 360 Bedtime for Frances 330 Clifford, The Small Red Puppy 320 Miss Nelson is Back	“That button is thin. My button was thick.” Toad put the thin button in his pocket. He was very angry. He jumped up and down and screamed, “The whole world is covered with buttons, and not one of them is mine!” Toad ran home and slammed the door. There, on the floor, he saw his white, four-holed, big, round, thick button. “Oh,” said Toad. “It was here all the time. What a lot of trouble I have made for Frog.” Toad took all of the buttons out of his pocket. He took his sewing box down from the shelf. Toad sewed the buttons all over his jacket. The next day Toad gave his jacket to Frog. Frog thought it was beautiful. He put it on and jumped for joy. (Arnold Lobel, author) © 1970 by Arnold Lobel. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.
300L	CLIFFORD’S MANNERS
290 Is Your Mama a Llama? 270 In the Forest 270 Baseball Ballerina 260 At the Crossroads 230 The Boy Who Cried Wolf 220 Franklin and Harriet	Clifford loves to go visiting. When he visits his sister in the country, he always calls ahead. Clifford always arrives on time. Don’t be late. Knock before you walk in. He knocks on the door before he enters. He wipes his feet first. Wipe your feet. Clifford kisses his sister. He shakes hands with her friend. Shake hands. Wash up before you eat. Clifford’s sister has dinner ready. Clifford washes his hands before he eats. Clifford chews his food with his mouth closed. He never talks with his mouth full. Don’t talk with your mouth full. Help clean up. Clifford helps with the clean-up. Say good-bye. Then he says thank you and good-bye to his sister and to his friend. Everyone loves Clifford’s manners. (Norman Bridwell, author) © 1972 by Norman Bridwell. Reprinted by permission of Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved.
200L	

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